

SIBFORD SCENE

December/January 2018

No 398



Photo by Karen Heron

MERRY CHRISTMAS SIBFORD!

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING

2nd December - 'Silver Birches' 10-Noon

CEILIDH

9th December - Village Hall - 730pm

CAROL SERVICE

15th December - Holy Trinity Church - 7pm

STRICTLY COME DANCING FINAL

16th December - Village Hall - 6pm

FILM NIGHT

23rd December - "Polar Express" - Village Hall - 4pm



Sibford Players Presents
A Midsummer
Night's Dream

NIGHTMARE!

At Sibford Village Hall

Friday 2nd February at 7.30pm

Saturday 3rd February at 2.30pm & 7.30pm

Tickets £5 (payment in advance)

For tickets: [juliette53 @btinternet.com](mailto:juliette53@btinternet.com) or
01295 788650

Booking opens 10th January

NB - Not suitable for under 10s



ED'S THOUGHTS

I was riding around the village the other day and I saw: Billy feeding his cattle, Bill tending his goats, Nic, Petra, David and Jean walking their dogs, Cedric talking to all and sundry and once again I realised what a very special place the Sibfords are....

This month our Bumper Issue has the start of a very exciting journey around the world by Matt Bishop and Reece Gilkes; Keith Hicks is our Village Person and there's lots of new things going on in the Village Hall!

A Joyous Christmas to you all!



Thought for the month:



"It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas....."

Meredith Wilson



LETTERS AND NOTICES

JOHN LOGGINS CHARITY

Any one wishing to apply to The John Loggins Charity, must do so **BY LETTER ONLY**, explaining their circumstances, to the Rectory by DEC 10th

A BIG 'THANKYOU'

After a very enjoyable evening watching 'Hidden Figures' last Wednesday we'd like to say a big 'Thank you' to all responsible for the refurbishment of our lovely village hall, and in particular for the new AV system which has surely taken the movie-viewing experience to a whole new level. The sound and image quality now rival that of other - purpose-built - viewing theatres, and the larger screen size makes such a big difference - especially for those who prefer to sit nearer the back!

We look forward to future screenings in our very own 'Sibford Cinema'.

PS. And - a special thank you to Petra B. for arranging the screenings.

Gareth and Sandra Price, Sibford Ferris



LETTERS AND NOTICES

continued.....

Wheelie Bins

An appeal to all the good folk of our beautiful villages of Sibford Gower, Sibford Ferris & Burdrop. If you have somewhere to put waste wheelie bins off lanes, grass verges & into a garage, shed or an area to get them away from view please do so. Thank you all very much. *Name and address supplied*

Sibford Players

Back by popular demand, the Sibford Players tread the boards again at the Village Hall on February 2nd and 3rd with three performances of a brand new play.

A new take on Shakespeare's classic 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', the production features new faces and all the old crew from last year's highly-acclaimed sell-out show. See page 2 for full details

- **Bespoke bathrooms, kitchens and carpentry**
- **Fitted furniture**
- **Plumbing and electrical works**
- **Home improvements and renovations**

**Hugo
Seely**

Trading in the Sibfords since 1992

From concept to completion
*Exceptional value,
exceptional service*

T: **01295 780355**
or **07773 319239**
E: **hugo.seely@gmail.com**

Excellent references



VILLAGE HALL NEWS

CEILIDH

This is to be held on DECEMBER 9th. We welcome the renowned "Old Bell Ceilidh Band" from Adderbury. Tickets £7 each person. Contact Ginny 01295 780373. Licensed Bar .Come and dance away the winter blues! Doors open 7.30pm.

STRICTLY COME DANCING FINAL

A FREE Fun Event! join us on DECEMBER 16th to watch the SCD Final on our huge new film screen. Bring the whole family and your own food and drinks. [No bar available that night]. See if YOU can pick the winners. We plan to start at 6pm [depending on BBC showing time.] Please check on the Village web site.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS FILM

On DECEMBER 23rd starting at 4pm . Come and see "POLAR EXPRESS". A heartwarming film about a young boy and his belief in Father Christmas.. Voiced by Tom Hanks. Adults £2 ,Children and Students £1. Refreshments and festive goodies available.

QUIZ NIGHT

The Quiz Night will be on JANUARY 13th 2018, starting at 7pm prompt .Doors open 6.30pm. Teams of up to 6 people are welcome to enter . Cost is £8 per head to include a hot supper. Please contact Ginny with your team details in good time. [01295 780373] There will be a Licensed Bar.

EVENTS FOR NEXT YEAR!

We are planning lots of different things for you next year, some new, some familiar. **EASTER EGG TRAIL** on March 30th. The **EUROVISION SONG CONTEST FINAL** on May 12th. **JAZZ EVENING** in June . **VILLAGE FAYRE** on July 7th, **WIMBLEDON MENS FINAL** on July 15TH, and **THE LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS** on September 8th. Some of these events will be FREE to enter.

LOST PROPERTY

Several items have been left at the Village Hall in the last month. A pair of pink spectacles, a fluffy purple scarf and some black gloves. If any of these are yours please contact Ginny.via the tel no below..

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Please be aware that the equipment in the small play area is only suitable for children 5 years and under. It belongs to the Tots and Babes Group and whilst they look after it, they do not want the equipment to get damaged.

BOOKING CONTACT

If you want to book the hall or need information about a booking please contact Ginny on 01295 780373 or via thesibfords.org web site.The website will have all the dates and details of events nearer the times so do please check.The hourly hire rates are going up very slightly from January 1st 2018.

Ian Warden - An appreciation

The villages have recently suffered the loss of three distinguished residents. First there was Arnold Lamb, a much loved resident whose family have lived in the Ferris for some generations. This was followed by Valerie Parkinson, resident of Burdrop recognised by her walks with her beloved companion Darcy and a regular follower of the Fielding Day Centre. A day afterwards came the news of Ian Warden from the Gower.

Ian Warden was born in Coldstream in Scotland on 10th March 1925. The younger of two sons whose parents died when they were young and who were brought up by their aunt on a farm nearby along with, later, two half sisters. At the age of 17 Ian volunteered for the Royal Marines, a compromise between the Navy which he preferred and a family tradition of soldiers. From this he was turned down as too young but, as soon as possible, he joined the Navy and trained in submarines. Like most service personnel in dangerous occupations, he said very little of his wartime experiences but one or two hair-raising stories of lonely vigils, minefields and the like did escape and references to HMS Vivid, his first posting also his Mediterranean and Far Eastern service.

After the war, in 1947 Ian met Maureen and they were married in 1948, going to live in Englefield Green and later to Egham where they brought up their two sons, Malcolm and Ian and where Ian senior worked nearby in the diesel manufacturing industry until retirement in 1986. It was then that they moved to Sibford and they instantly joined in every activity available in the village, normally taking a proactive part and soon becoming indispensable. Annual builder of the beautiful Easter Garden in the church and Nativity at Christmas and keen supporters, founding members of the Fielding Day Centre (for which Ian was still drafting the volunteers' rotas at the time of his death) and of the Sibford Society, for many years helping to print and personally stapling the monthly Sibford Scene, official welcomer of new village residents, sign writer for village events, Poppy Day sellers, Founding members of the Sibford Wine Imbibers Group (SWIG) and both were regular helpers at the Leonard Cheshire Home and Katharine House.

Ian was a man of quiet strength, always calm in a crisis, always prepared to roll up his sleeves. A loving family man of indomitable spirit, determined and independent. In later years with the loss of Maureen and of his younger son Ian, he was never bitter or complaining but showed just stoic acceptance, thankful for all the love they had shared. Even the melanoma and loss of his nose, the cruellest of fates, produced "There are plenty worse off than me".

Both Ian and Maureen loved family, friends, neighbours and the people of the Sibfords and was especially appreciative of those, with his family, who gave him regular help in his declining years. Ian often quoted a poem by another past resident, Sheila Walsh:

continued.....

*I left my old familiar place and friendships far behind
And came to unaccustomed land not knowing what to find
I saw the widespread landscape, the springing flowers, the sky.
The beauty all-surrounding that took and held my eye.
Though all these things enchantment gave, they are the lesser part,
The welcome from the people-ah!-the people took my heart.*

Ian will be greatly missed by many in Sibford but his loss will be particularly felt by his large and loving family, including his three great-grandchildren, to whom goes the sympathy of us all.

Norman Nash

Dr. Valerie Parkinson

My Mother Dr Valerie Parkinson passed away peacefully on the 1st November after a brief illness. Many would see her walking Mr Darcy through the village daily to the duck pond. She has lived in the village with me , my husband Christopher, and daughter Amelia, for 20 years . She enjoyed the hospitality and made many friends at The Fielding Centre and at her art classes in the village hall. She will be greatly missed and is now resting in the village church yard with the most perfect view to the sunset. I would like to thank all those who became her friends and helped her while she lived in Burdrop .

Many Many Thanks, Fiona Steane - Burdrop House.

Here is the poem that Amelia wrote and read at Valerie's funeral:

*It's evening in summer and together with you
We're gazing at swifts swooping through pastel blue
Together we decipher pockets of world
Watching birds in the open flutter and furl
In your soft coral jumper, with clipped dusky hair
You sit, silver locket on neck, in the butterfly chair*

*We venture London together, through gallery and park;
And on perilous 52 we warily embark*

*Now though you hated the music that I played in my car;
You'll be a huge part of me, wherever you are.
You'd tell me to always work hard and behave
And I'm forever blessed with the knowledge that you gave
So Granny; my guide, moreover my loyal friend,
It is all of my love that I readily send.*





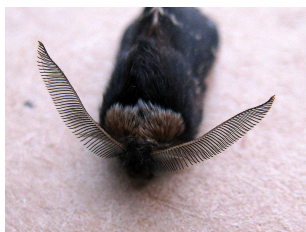
NATURE NOTES

Red Admiral butterflies have had a very good year and on sunny days could be seen flying at least until the end of October. At this time of the year the adult butterflies will feed on ivy blossom and also on rotting fruit. In southern England some may overwinter while others will fly south to warmer climates.

On returning from holiday we discovered a large pile of bird droppings on our doorstep. It seems that a Robin has decided that our front door handle is a good place to roost!

The local deer have decimated what was a nice row of spinach beet and rainbow chard on our vegetable plot. Fortunately they seem to have left the other crops alone.

December moths have started to appear just in time for inclusion in these notes (November 14th). The males have impressive feathered antennae. It is worth looking around outside lights in the morning, especially after mild still nights, to see if anything interesting has been attracted.



Recent articles in the national press have claimed that a new species of snake is now to be found in England making four species in total. Actually all that has happened is that Grass Snakes in Europe that used to be considered as two subspecies are now considered sufficiently different to be classed as two separate species based on DNA evidence. The Grass Snake that occurs in Europe to the west of the Rhine including Britain will now be referred to as the Barred Grass Snake. So we still only have the three species of snake in England.



NATURE NOTES

Continued.....

Finally I received this welcome but anonymous contribution. Over the last 2 weeks blackbirds and the more colourful Redwings have made short work of a holly tree well stocked with berries. It has been stripped of berries right down to the lowest branches which they are still working on (16th November). Blackbirds are also feeding on windfall apples.

Please send any observations for inclusion in the next Nature Notes to ajnewbold88@gmail.com.

Andy and Gill Newbold.

Colour Analysis by Annie Broe

I will show you which colours are best for you.

Wearing the right colours is an easy and effective way to enhance your appearance.

You will instantly look more radiant, younger and healthier.

You will feel more confident.

Colours are very powerful – use this power to your advantage and look fantastic!

Vouchers available – the perfect present

For a personal colour analysis or for more details, please call me on

T: 01295 780637 or 07930 398151. E: annie4colourandstyle@gmail.com



Children's Day Nursery Epswell

- Care for children aged 2 to 5 years
- Full and part time places available
- Open Monday to Friday 9.00am - 4.00pm
- Ofsted rating: Outstanding
- Competitive rates
- Early years grant registered

The nursery provides excellent opportunities for children to explore and learn through play under the guidance of highly trained, experienced and caring staff.

Ring Julia on: 01295 780580 or

Email: Julia@arknursery.net





Serenity at Sibford

Gautherns Barn (nr Temple Mill)

01295 788463 07891 220275

Celebrating 10 Years of Relaxation and Pampering!

Specialising in Guinot and Environ Facials & Skincare

OPI Manicures and Pedicures, Lava Shell and Hot Stone Deep Tissue Massage

All Types of Blemish Removal - Age Spots, Milia, Skin Tags, Warts etc

Shellac, Waxing, Eyelash Tinting, Jane Iredale Make-Up,

Reflexology, Indian Head Massage

Fully Equipped Pilates Studio

Open Monday to Saturday with Jo and Vanessa

(20+ years experience)

Free Private Parking

email: jo@serenityatsibford.co.uk

www.serenityatsibford.co.uk

www.pilatesinsibford.co.uk



DID YOU KNOW?

Crash of Wellington Bomber in Sibford

On Sunday December 7th 1941 at 18.30 hours, during a freak snow storm, two RAF Officers were walking on the main Banbury to Shipston Road, B4035, near Pitch Hill. They saw an aircraft fly over them at a very low altitude, only ten or twelve feet above the ground with its landing lights on. The aircraft hit the top of a telegraph pole situated at the top of Pitch Hill. It gained a little height before the starboard wing dropped and the plane spun and crashed in a field about 500 yards away which was owned by a Mr James Scruby of Sibford Ferris. (This field lays approximately half way between the Sibford Elm and what is now Sibford Surgery.) On impact, the aircraft burst into flames and broke in half.

As the telephone lines had been broken by the crashing aircraft the RAF officers asked a passing motorist to go to Banbury for the ambulance and to inform the Police Station of the incident. At 19.40 hours Hook Norton Fire Brigade arrived and eventually extinguished the burning aircraft.

Official enquiries revealed that the crashed aircraft was a Vickers Wellington B1 twin-engined bomber, No Z1089, only a month old, only flown for 75 hours, and carrying a crew of six. The aircraft and crew were all attached to 21 OTU, RAF Moreton-In-Marsh, and had taken off at 18.00 hours on December 7th on a cross-country operational training flight. It entered low cloud and, owing to the very bad weather conditions at the time, iced up, went out of control and crashed.

Four crew members died in the crash but two were saved by the prompt actions of the 2 RAF officers who witnessed the crash. The dead crew members are remembered at our Remembrance Day Service every year in Holy Trinity Church.

WELCOME TO SIBFORD

If you are new to the Sibfords and would like a 'Welcome to Sibford' booklet, providing details of village services and activities, please call Ivor Hopkyns on T: 788367 (Gower & Burdrop) or Nic Durrant T: 788865 (Ferris). And don't forget that we are lucky enough to have a really great village website too at: thesibfords.org.uk

QUALITY FISH DIRECT

FROM GRIMSBY MARKET

Proprietor: Robert Hill

07578 195979

www.qualityfishgrimsby.co.uk

Freshest fish and shellfish direct from
Grimsby to Sibford Village Hall EVERY
MONDAY from 4.30 'til 5.30pm



OPUS

OPUS
Property
Services Ltd

01295 780652
07816592124

All aspects of property maintenance and refurbishment undertaken from replacement light bulbs and tap washers to new ceilings and floors.

Plumbing, tiling, wood flooring, floor renovation, under floor heating, plastering, electrics, decorating, damp proofing, carpentry, locks, drains, kitchens, bathrooms etc

Call us or visit our website for more information:
www.opusps.co.uk

For Practical Garden Assistance

Please contact Nick Taylor

T: 07425 136992

01608 684388

07434 579499

All types of garden work undertaken



BESPOKE DESIGN SERVICE FOR
CUSTOM MADE FURNISHINGS

**Pattern book room for you
to browse fabric designs**
Curtains, blinds & cushions
Loose covers & lampshade making
Headboards & bedspreads
Curtain poles & tracks
New sofas & chairs & reupholstery

01295 788145

ann@annwoolgrove.com | www.yarnhill.co.uk

www.annwoolgrove.com

C. A. Berger

Painting & Decorating
Interiors & Exteriors
Residential & Commercial
Carpentry Repairs
and
Property Maintenance

Mobile: 07875 212 315

Office Tel/Fax:
01295 738633



VILLAGE PEOPLE



This month's 'star' is Keith Hicks.....

How did you come to live in Sibford?

This was the early 1970's when 'Gazumping' was rife. I was living in an hotel and each evening I took the estate agents house details and drove out in ever increasing circles. Every property was sold by the time I arrived until I eventually came to the Sibfords. There were four houses in Sycamore Close and twelve in the Barley Close all about to be built. We couldn't afford Sycamore Close at £11,000 so we agreed on the third house to be built in the Barley Close. A snip at £9,500.

Your earliest memory of Sibford?

We had been living in No. 10 Barley Close for about six weeks when one dark autumn evening the doorbell rang. We had a glass front door and a dark shape filled the porch. Rather like Darth Vader except that he hadn't been invented then. I opened the door to the Vicar, John Stewart, dressed in a flowing black cloak and wellington boots.



"I understand you're in Marketing" he boomed. "Will you do the publicity for my Sibfords Open Village Event?" I never looked back!

What really gets you going?

Injustice - people, companies or organisations that take advantage of the individual.

Any secrets you wish to share?

Using Margaret Thatcher's private lavatory at No. 10 Downing Street. I went with a film crew to interview Prime Minister Tony Blair. We set up in a second floor room only to be told that he was running late. I decided I had better use the loo and was told by a very huffy PA that the nearest public lavatory was three floors down in the basement. When I insisted he showed me to a concealed door saying "Be quick, this was built especially for Mrs Thatcher when she was Prime Minister!"

Any changes you think should happen in Sibford?

We've brought up our family and have lived in three properties in the Sibfords in the last 46 years; indicative, I think, of a certain affinity with the community. I don't believe I'd really change anything - except perhaps, resurface the village roads.



SIBFORDS WALKING GROUP

Forthcoming Walks:

11 December; 8 January; 22 January; 5 February

Leaving the village hall on foot or by car at 10.00 am sharp to do a circuit of approximately 2 hours' duration. Dogs welcome provided they are put on leads when requested. Walking boots and poles recommended but not compulsory. (Some routes include stiles).

Walkers should either park on the road or on the grass field at the village hall and not on the tarmac area which is reserved for the painting class.

All those who walk on 11 December are invited to Carter's Yard for lunch after the walk. It would help with catering if lunch participants could let Sue know they will be joining the group for lunch as well as the walk.

All welcome. Enquiries to Sue Bannister
T: 780365 or E: sebannister@gmail.com

Please notify Sue, village footpaths warden, if you discover things that need repairing or cutting back on the footpaths within the Sibfords' parishes



The Firs Garage



www.firs-garage.com

Family business established 1960

Tel: 01608 737349 / 737641

Hook Norton, OX15 5DD



Extensive range of new and used economical cars, hybrids & 4x4's

Part exchange welcome

Service

MOT Parts

Bodyshop

Fuel Shop

New Mitsubishi vehicle range to suit all motoring needs

Call Firs sales to book a test drive

**ALL MAKES
SERVICING**
COMPETITIVE PRICES



The visit from our speaker on 19th October is now a long way off, but Dr Gillian White's talk on 'The Great Fire of Warwick' was unforgettable – a wealth of information delivered with great panache and humour.

Unfortunately, the long-awaited talk by Dr Richard Buckley on 'Life after Richard III', due to take place on 16th November, had to be postponed we found not one speaker, but two at short notice: Oswyn Murray and Ivan Tyrrell

'How well do you know your father?'

Oswyn began with his depiction of the journey of a bundle of love letters written in 1943 by a young woman, Eileen Alexander, to her beloved who was serving in Cairo and later became her husband. It is an entrancing story, and all based on so much coincidence -the connection between this young woman and Oswyn's father, the very fact that Oswyn's name is unique, the dedication of the man in Glasgow who transcribed the thousands of letters, eventually having them published, and seeking out Oswyn. This is the compelling stuff of fiction but it is all true. It must have been a joyous revelation for Oswyn to learn from a stranger, long deceased, things about his father that he never could have known .

His message : we are the custodians of our parents' memories.

'Memory and Memoirs'

As if that were not stunningly interesting enough it was followed by Ivan Tyrrell's fascinating story of his life – his memoirs condensed into half an hour. We were expertly taken from his babyhood to his boyhood and then to his adult life, and shown how all his experiences played a role in the person he has become: hypnosis as a 14 year-old when his arm was fractured, his genuinely curious questions on Bible stories, for which he was beaten at school, his artistic gifts, and later his interest in depression and psychotherapy. We went away, our heads spinning with Archimedes' Eureka moment, Idris Shah, the Law of all Living Things, Why we Dream, The Human Givens ,The Brain's Big Bang ,Sufism, and much, much more.

On behalf of the Sibfords Society Committee, many many thanks to both of you; please come back and let's have a week-long seminar next time!

We are taking a break for Christmas and our next meeting will be the Social Evening on 15th February 2018. Please lend Tony Haynes a photo of yourself as a child for the quiz, and if you have an amusing anecdote about Christmas please let us know.

Diana Hughes

Sibford School Entry Days



Sibford School will be hosting two Entry Days for pupils entering Year 7 in September 2018.

The days, which are designed to offer prospective Year 7 pupils a warm welcome to the school whilst assessing their ability to thrive in an academic environment, will take place on Wednesday 24 and Thursday 25 January.

Toby Spence, Head of Sibford School, said: "We introduced the idea of group Entry Days last year and it proved so popular that we are repeating it again for 2018."

During the two days, children will undergo assessment and join in with a number of fun activities alongside Sibford's current Year 6 pupils.

In addition, those who are interested in

boarding or flexi boarding will be invited to stay overnight in the boarding houses.

"This is an ideal opportunity for children who will be joining Year 7 in September to meet with their peers and start making new friendships," said Toby Spence.

"It doesn't mean that we can't accept registrations for Year 7 entry later in the year; as, indeed, we do for children joining the Junior School, Sixth Form or in other year groups.

"However, because Year 7 is such a big intake, it does help to give the pupils a head start if they can meet each other before hand."

Anyone wishing their child to attend the Entry Days in January should contact the school on 01295 781203 to arrange registration.



SIBFORD GOWER PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

November started with a bang, quite literally, with the spectacular firework display which was part of our annual Bonfire Night celebrations. It was a real pleasure to be able to welcome so many of you to this event which was organised by our amazing and dedicated PTA.

During the second half of the Autumn Term, lots of exciting topic work has been taking place. The children in Acorn and Willow Class have been thinking about 'People Who Help Us'. We have invited lots of interesting visitors into school to talk about what they do, including the Mayor and Mayoress of Banbury, an aeroplane pilot, a teacher of the deaf, a small animal vet, a nurse and an optician. The children have been able to ask all sorts of questions and have been inspired to think both about what they might like to be when they grow up, and ways that they can help others.

In KS2, Maple Class completed a unit of work linked to Remembrance Day to bring to life for our children just why it is so important that we mark this day to remember those who have given their lives for their country. The class explored what life was like in the trenches for soldiers in the Great War, even building a trench in their classroom as an inspiration for their writing.

Heidi Greenhalgh (Year 5) wrote a very effective opening paragraph: "Dear Diary, I have been awakened by the horrific sound of continuous screaming. I felt angry but my anger suddenly turned to sadness. My immediate response was to wake everyone up but, at that moment, I simply didn't think I was doing the right thing. I needed a minute to think. I only came yesterday!" Heidi then went on to write an eloquent and moving account of her first days as a soldier in the trenches.

To find out more about the school, our pupil's achievements and all the wonderful things that go on here, please take a look at the school website at www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk

Jane O'Sullivan



SIBFORD'S GOT TALENT

WORLD FIRST ATTEMPT AT CIRCUMNAVIGATING THE GLOBE ON A SCOOTER WITH A SIDECAR

Two friends from Sibford are attempting a Guinness World Record to raise awareness of modern-day slavery and other human rights abuses. On 21 October 2017, childhood friends Matt Bishop and Reece Gilkes embarked on an 18 month circumnavigation of the globe on a Honda SH300i scooter and a home-made sidecar.

"The idea was born out of our moaning," said Matt. "Moaning at the state of the world and how unequal it was. Moaning at the stories in the news (or the ones that weren't), and moaning at ourselves for doing nothing about it. So we decided to do something.

"We're taking on this huge challenge to raise awareness and funds for the fight against modern-day slavery. There are currently 45.8 million people enslaved in every country globally, including the UK. That's enough people to fill Wembley Stadium over 500 times and more than double what there was at the peak of the transatlantic slave trade."

The friends, have now made it through the Alps to Lake Bled in Slovenia and plan to head South in to Africa over the next couple of months. They were given a great send off as part of their London to Paris rally against modern day slavery that they organised. 65 other people rallied with them from London to Paris on a mixture of motorbikes, scooters, sidecars and cars. The event, sponsored by Flight Centre UK, Eurotunnel and Lochinvar, raised £1,500 for the expedition and the charities that the friends are raising for.



The event was raising awareness of Unseen UK's Modern Slavery Helpline as part of their Lets Nail It campaign – targeting slavery in nail bars. Neither had any experience of riding motorbikes before they decided to circumnavigate the globe on the 279cc scooter and sidecar (built by a couple of generous sidecar enthusiasts). But that wasn't going to put them off - in preparation for their epic adventure, Matt and Reece tested their mettle on a 2,200 mile route from London to Lands' End, to John O'Groats, to London again on a couple of Yamaha YBR 125's in the middle of December 2016.



SIBFORD'S GOT TALENT

continued.....

“We had absolutely no experience with motorbikes whatsoever,” said Reece. “We didn’t even know how they worked, let alone how to ride one. We had absolutely no mechanical expertise, but we quickly learned the basics when we needed to put a chain back on, in the dark, in the rain and on the side of a road. We’ve also undertaken emergency survival training with Survival Wisdom to better prepare ourselves for the expedition.”

The pair will eventually scoot over five continents, through over 50 countries and cover around 40,000 miles on the most inappropriate mode of transport imaginable – a scooter with a sidecar. The trip itself, sponsored by Flight Centre UK, will take up to 18 months and will involve travelling on a mixture of tarmac, mud, gravel, ice and sand, with temperatures reaching highs of 40c and potentially touching minus 30c.



They plan to meet a variety of people involved in fighting against modern-day slavery and other human rights abuses. They plan to tell the real stories of real people in the hope that this will make people back in the UK feel more connected. They believe that by championing similarities they can inspire people to make changes to every-day decisions and improve the lives of millions around the world. As well as aiming to inspire genuine change, the project has a fundraising target of £50,000 which will go towards organisations such as Unseen UK, Freedom United and the local organisations visited en-route – as well as helping fund the costs of the trip.

To learn more about the expedition, or to donate to the cause, visit www.asseenfromthesidecar.org and follow @Asseenfromthesidecar on Facebook, @SeenfromSidecar on Twitter, as_seen_from_the_sidecar on Instagram and As Seen From The Sidecar on YouTube.

SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL

NOTES OF SIBFORD FERRIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, 13 NOVEMBER 2017

Present at the meeting were Councillors Tim Huckvale (Chair), Maureen Hicks (Vice-Chair), Ginny Bennett, Adrian Lamb, Anita Spencer (outgoing Clerk), Graham Beacham (incoming Clerk), District and County Councillor George Reynolds, Oswyn Murray of Sibford Gower Parish Council and three members of the public. The meeting was closed to the public for the first half an hour for members to agree to the appointment of Graham Beacham and for the employment contract to be signed. In respect of the vacancy on the parish council, the District Council had confirmed there had not been a demand for an election; as there would be full parish council elections in May 2018, it was agreed to approach residents who might wish to be co-opted. Peter Robinson had been thanked for his valuable contribution to the parish during his time as council member.

Matters Arising: superfast broadband; minor repair works and signage at the Fitness Equipment; maintenance, bins and the mowing contract at the Cotswold Close play area; the completed re-painting by Highways of white lines; the installation of a dog waste bin on Woodway Road; CPR/First Aid training for the Sibfords.

Planning: nothing further had been heard on development proposals for the Hook Norton Road; one planning application was discussed and three notices of decision and the submission by Sibford Gower Parish Council regarding the application for change of use of the former Bishop Blaize were noted.

Correspondence: there had been requests for responses to surveys on national and local transport, confirmation that rural in-surgery pharmacies would be retained and notification of workshops on the future of primary care in Oxfordshire. Items regarding footpaths and policing would be put on the village website. Councillor Bennett reported back from the District Council Parish Liaison meeting of 8 November that there had been presentations on traveller encampments, the planned purchase by the District Council of Castle Quay, recovery of funds from the Icelandic Bank and the delaying until mid-2018 of Local Plan Part 2.

Finance: the second precept payment and the annual VAT repayment claim were noted; the draft budget was discussed and agreement to retain the precept for 2018/19 at the current level was made, with spending above that figure to come out of reserves; replacement of the ageing play area equipment would be studied, and costings and timings submitted at a subsequent meeting. 2018 dates for General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and general training had not been published at the time of the meeting, but attendance as appropriate was agreed.

Continued.....

Any Other Business: the removal of the parish council litter bin near the shop was an ongoing issue; David Stewart was thanked for laying the Remembrance Day wreath; correspondence from a resident regarding land on Hawkes Lane was noted. The meeting closed at 9.36 pm.

The next meeting will be on Monday, 15 January at 7.45pm in the Sports Hall Classroom, Sibford School.

The full draft minutes of the meeting are available on the village website (thesibfords.org.uk/sfpc) or from the Clerk (01608 810047).

PLEASE ENSURE YOUR HOUSE NAME AND/OR NUMBER IS CLEARLY VISIBLE
There has been a request recently from the local branch of Community First Responders, all of whom are currently based outside of the Sibfords, that householders do as much as possible to ensure their house names and/or numbers are clearly displayed: there have been instances where emergency responders have not been able to locate properties quickly. As speed is of the essence in these circumstances, your cooperation would greatly be appreciated.

Anita Spencer



During Dec the Club will have both their Christmas Tea on Dec 5th and Christmas Lunch on Dec 19th

As the Club DOES NOT meet during Jan. SO we will meet again on Feb 6th 2018. The Committee and Members wish all readers A Very Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

Wheathills Livery Yard: DIY stables for rent

One stable and one stable area, both with grazing, available within Sibford Gower. This is a small private yard with a quiet secure location which is operated wholly on a DIY basis.

For further information, including pricing, please contact Archie Eggar on 01295 226288 or Charles Leather on 01844 267945



HORTI SOCIETY



We had a great turn out for the last horti speaker of the year. Tim Walker entertained a packed hall on the subject of Scent in the Garden. Who knew that the fruit of the ginkgo biloba smells like 'a bucket of vomit' or that honeysuckle smells most strongly in the evening as it is pollinated by moths? Strange but true facts. He described vividly the different scents which herald the different seasons of the year.

If you failed to catch Tim this time around, he will be back to address our first meeting of 2018 on euphorbias, for which he has a passion. The meeting will be on Wednesday 14th March at 7.30 in the village hall. Put it in your diary now!

The spring show will be on Saturday, 19th May.

The handicraft section is as follows

- 1 A piece of pottery
- 2 A cushion
- 3 A hand knitted article
- 4 An item of cross stitch
- 5 A piece of metal or woodwork. Please state size on entry
- 6 A greetings card, made from any medium excluding computer generated.
- 7 A bookmark, any medium
- 8 A handicraft exhibit. Please state size on entry.
- 9 A handicraft exhibit, age 16 and under.

Photography

1. Photograph Landscapes/country scenes
- 2 Photograph woods and flowers
- 3 Photograph happiness
- 4 Photograph macro
5. Photograph coasts and water
- 6 Photograph, wildlife in the garden
7. Photograph the beauty of plants
- 8 A night photograph
- 9 Photograph my best selfie. A print from a mobile phone
10. Photographs of 4 related views - mounted on one sheet and named.
- 11 A black and white photograph -any size, one only.
- 12 An enlargement, any subject (max size A4, black and white or colour)
- 13 A painting or drawing
- 14 A painting or drawing - aged 16 or under

Diana Thompson

Beko Fridge/Freezer very clean condition £30 ono
Georgian/Victorian Elm Smokers Chair in excellent condition.
Could deliver £60 ono. Tel: 788235 (Burdrop)

In Your Garden - December/January

And plenty of sitting down too.

1. Read your way through all the seed catalogues and make a wish list, then cut it back a bit. We always over-order. If you have room, try to plan for a cutting border, and fill it with jolly annuals that you can pick for 8 or 9 months of the year.
2. If you have planted bulbs in pots and they are growing on, keep them watered, but NOT if there is a frost likely, and water sparingly.
3. If you have pruned the whippy growth on your wisteria in September, it is now time to cut back the shoots to just 2 buds. Be brutal. The reason why so many wisterias don't flower is because they haven't been cut back hard enough.
4. You can start pruning roses now, but not in frosty weather.
5. Agapanthus and other tender plants will benefit from a mulch of straw or bracken to help keep them warm.
6. Clean off all your old labels, and canes and supports, that got left in the borders earlier, and put them tidily away in the shed, please.
7. And keep feeding the birds, and keeping their bath/drinking basin clean. Birds seem to like to have a bath in the coldest weather.
8. And if it snows, carefully shake off the worst of the snow from bushes, but do it gently, as the extra weight of the snow can easily snap the branches.

That's quite enough gardening. Enjoy looking out of the window at the glorious frost, and have a lovely Christmas.

Jupe Hitching





DAVID BOVILL

ARCHITECTURAL AND PLANNING SERVICES

Providing a personal service from Design through Planning and Building Regulations, and beyond if required

Specialising in Extensions, Loft Extensions and Listed Buildings work

Please phone or e-mail to arrange a free initial consultation

01869 347906

davidbovill@btinternet.com

PILATES IN SIBFORD

Madeleine Wilson M Sc.

Mat & Studio Master Teacher offers bespoke one-to-one and duet sessions training on specialised pilates equipment Reformers, chairs, barrels & Cadillac plus small group mat work classes.

For all Levels
from Beginners to Advanced.

T: 01295 780279

Mobile: 07905 953300

E: mw1@linuxwaves.com

www.pilatesinsibford.co.uk

PATSY & ANDREW EDWARDS

Old pine tables, chests,
cupboards etc.
bought and sold



Oak floors - bespoke doors - log
stores
supplied and fitted



T: 01608 684969

E: patsyed@talktalk.net

M: 07760 615581

E: andrew@innovationco.uk

World Dance group in Swalcliffe

Second Wednesday each month
Swalcliffe Village Hall, 7.30-9pm



Learn folk dances from around the world
to beautiful music in friendly company.
No partner needed or experience necessary,
as each dance is patiently taught
before the music starts.

There is no need to book, just turn up
with £5 in your pocket and have some fun.

Contact Tracy 780710 or tracylean@gmail.com.



LOCAL NEWS

*Join us for
some
festive
fun on*



*Sunday 3 December
11:00am - 3:00pm
Shutford Village Hall
Hand crafted & vintage stalls
Tea & Coffee
Cakes
Mulled Wine
Raffle
£1.00 entrance fee*

*Proceeds in aid of Shutford Village Hall.
Raffle in aid of The Children's Cancer and Leukaemia
Group*



*Fierce creature seen in
Burdop.....*

LOCAL MARKETS

Banbury - Every Thursday & Saturday.
Farmers Market - 1st Friday of the month

Chipping Norton - Every Wednesday

Chipping Norton Farmers - 3rd Saturday
of the month

Deddington Farmers - 4th Saturday of
the month

Great Rollright - 1st Saturday of the
month

**2nd December
Swalcliffe Christmas
Market**

**9th December
Tadmerton Christmas
Fair**

"In the olden days everybody sang. You were expected to sing as well as talk. It was the mark of a cultured man to sing to know music"

Leonard Bernstein

GREAT TASTE



Our Head Chef this month is, once again - Sally Wass!

Lamb Chops In Port

4 lamb chops

4oz mushrooms

1 and a half oz butter

1 dstsp flour

2 tbsp redcurrant jelly

1 tbsp worcestershire sauce

1/4 - 1/2 pt stock

2 tbsp port

Pinch of nutmeg, S&P



Melt the butter, seal the chops, remove to a casserole. Sprinkle with mushrooms stir all the other ingredients into the pan and cook for 3/4 hour

THE VILLAGE SHOP HOOK NORTON

National Lottery

Grocery - Greengrocery - Bakery - Wines

Spirits - Confectionery - Newspapers

Magazines - Cards - Bottled Gas

Open Monday to Friday

8 am to 8 pm

Saturday 8 am to 8 pm

Sunday 8 am to 6 pm

Tele phone: 01608 737245

Stay in style in the Sibfords

Sumptuous self-catering
and B&B

Newly refurbished self-catering accommodation set in stunning private gardens with heated swimming pool, tennis court and croquet lawn. 4 beds, 5 bathrooms. Sleeps 8.

Also available, luxurious B&B facilities

Contact **Sally Wass**

T: 01295 780104

E: sally.wass@btinternet.com

www.holmbyhouse.com

Holmby
House 

LETTERCARVE

HAND-CARVED HARDWOOD SIGNS FOR THE HOME AND WORKPLACE.
SUITABLE FOR HOUSES, SCHOOLS, ESTATES, FARMS,
STABLES, KENNELS, OFFICES.
MADE LOCALLY IN SIBFORD GOWER.

.COM

MISS "T" CATERING.

Good Home Cooked Food
Catering for events such as:
Anniversaries, Weddings,
Christenings, Birthday parties,
Funerals & private dinner parties.



Also available
Cutlery and Crockery Hire.
Contact Victoria Taylor on:
Mob: 07841 910037
Home: 01295 780206

RED HORSE VALE



All Types of Fuel, Coal, Smokeless, Gas,
Logs, Kindling, Barbecue Needs, Central
Heating Oil, Oil Tanks & Coal Bunkers
Landscape & Building Materials
Garden Centre & Garden Supplies,
Farm & Country Sundries
Equestrian Products, Horse & Pet Feeds
Open: Monday - Saturday 8am - 5pm
Windmill Farm, Banbury Road (A422),
Oxhill, Warwickshire CV35 0RP
Tel: 01926 642832 Fax: 01926 642853
www.redhorsevale.co.uk

Sibford Stores & Post Office, Sibford Ferris, OX15 5RG

Telephone 01295 788317 / 788348

YOUR LOCAL CONVENIENCE STORE AND NEWSAGENT

We deliver newspapers and magazines 7 days a week to all the surrounding area. Place your regular order today, whether for 1 day a week or 7. Always a wide selection of magazines, specialist titles available to order.

Chilled & Frozen foods, groceries, cigarettes, beers, wines and spirits, fresh fruit and vegetables, pet foods, household goods, toiletries, medical requisites and lots, lots more ...

Health Lottery, photocopying, fax service, dry cleaning

We will also undertake your mailings for you, just ask.

Always an excellent selection of Hook Norton bottled beers in stock

Telephone your grocery order for free local delivery.

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday 7.30 am to 7.30 pm

Sunday 7.30 am to 4.00 pm

PLEASE SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POST OFFICE, THERE ARE LOTS OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE ON YOUR DOORSTEP



Police Phone No. 101. Emergencies 999 Crimestoppers No. 0800 555111.
Trading Standards No. 0845 0510845.

December 2017 *Peter Hine 01295 788830*

I've been inundated with Thames Valley Police Alerts and here are summaries of the more relevant ones. Whilst I know that the fear of crime is usually far worse than the actual risk, there are a number of scams being perpetrated which can be avoided with a little awareness.

1. Students and job seekers are being targeted by fraudsters trying to obtain personal and banking details, or requesting money to secure accommodation. Job seeking websites, including the Student Room sites, could be vulnerable as bogus recruitment companies/businesses are asking people to complete application/interview forms, and even attend interviews. Carry out thorough research to confirm that the organisation tempting you actually exists.
2. Dementia - If you know someone living with dementia who is receiving lots of unnecessary telephone calls, Friends Against Scams (FAS) has a website and is offering a limited number of free call blockers.
3. HMRC - Fraudsters are using 020 numbers, claiming to be from HMRC, with threats of arrest warrants for tax fraud ! Unless your name is Hamilton, do not bother engaging with these people and contact Action Fraud 0300 123 2040.
4. Finally, a little crime prevention advice; Don't advertise the expensive item you have just bought. For example, the box from a large flat screen TV should not be left outside. Cut it up and store it out of sight. Burglar Bill may not want your new TV, but could think you have lots of other nice things to steal. This does work both ways however. In the days of Life on Mars I was part of an entry team to a crack house. The giveaway was the 20 or so empty microwave boxes dumped on the pavement outside the premises. (microwave ovens were used in the production of crack cocaine).

Have a happy and crime free Christmas. Peter Hine

SIBFORD BUS SERVICE

JOHNSONS SERVICE 3A



STRATFORD - SHIPSTON ON STOUR
 THE SIBFORDS - BANDBURY
NO SERVICE ON SUNDAYS

New times start Monday 5th June 2017

	NS	H			SO
Stratford, Wood Street	06.15	09.05	....	....	16.05
Stratford, Bridge Street	06.17	09.07	....	....	16.07
Newbold on Stour	06.31	09.22	....	....	16.22
Clifford Chambers New Inn	....	....	....	....	....
Shipston Tilemans Lane	....	09.37	11.25	13.25	....
Shipston on Stour, opp Pettiphers Garage	06.40	09.40	11.38	13.38	16.30
Lower Brailes, The Park	06.50	09.50	11.48	13.48	16.40
Sibford Ferris, School	07.02	10.02	12.00	14.00	16.52
Lower Tadmarton	07.12	10.12	12.10	14.10	17.02
Banbury Bus Station	07.25	10.25	12.23	14.23	17.15

Banbury Bus Station	10.40	12.40	....	14.35	17.25
Lower Tadmarton	10.53	12.53	....	14.48	17.38
Sibford Ferris School	11.03	13.03	....	14.58	17.49
Lower Brailes, The Park	11.16	13.16	....	15.11	18.05
Shipston on Stour, Pettiphers Garage	....	....	....	15.21	18.15
Shipston on Stour, opp Pettiphers Garage	11.28	13.28	....	....	....
Shipston Tilemans Lane	(11.25)	(13.25)	....	15.24	....
Clifford Chambers, New Inn	....	....	....	....	18.23
Newbold on Stour	....	....	....	15.33	....
Stratford, Bridge Street	....	....	....	15.51	18.38
Stratford, Wood Street	....	....	....	15.53	18.40

NS NOT SATURDAY
 SO SATURDAYS ONLY
 H via HALFORD



THE CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING
SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER

SILVER BIRCHES, BACKSIDE LANE SIBFORD GOWER
ALL Welcome

Hosts – ELEANOR & BRIAN JOYNES

10 am to 12 noon

Homemade Mince pies, Shortbread, Scones
Cappuccino, Latté, Traditional Black, Coffee; Hot Chocolate
Earl Grey, Ceylon, Strong, Green or Fruit, Tea; Lemonade, Orange Juice
There will be a –
Bring and Buy (anything), a Cake Stall –
And a Raffle

Proceeds in aid of Holy Trinity Church Sibford

YOGA
Sibford Village Hall

Tuesday 9.00 - 10.00am

Friday 9.00 - 10.00am

Chair Yoga Fridays 10.15 - 11.00am

Any enquiries to Juliette - 07703 836856

Juliette53@btinternet.com

Drop in £8.00

RICHARD WALLINGTON
BUILDER

Block paver drives a speciality
Also extensions, patios
fencing etc.

High Quality Work - Free Estimates

T 01295 780705

Mobile 07743 932545

(Sibford Gower)

Christmas StudioSale

of paintings & cards by Nigel Fletcher

Swalcliffe Village Hall

9 - 17th Dec. 10 - 5pm - every day

www.nigelfletcher.co.uk





CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DECEMBER

- 2nd - Christmas Coffee Morning - 'Silver Birches' - 10-Noon
- 9th - Ceilidh - Village Hall -730pm
- 15th - Carol Service in the Church - 7pm
- 16th - 'Strictly Come Dancing' Final - Village Hall - 6pm
- 17th - Christingle Service in the Church - 430pm
- 19th - Carol singing round the village - 630pm onwards
- 23rd - Film Night - "Polar Express" - Village Hall - 4pm

JANUARY

- 8th - SGPC meeting - Primary School - 8pm
- 13th - Quiz Night - Village Hall - 630pm
- 15th - SFPC meeting - Sibford School Sports Hall Classroom - 745pm
- 20th - Jumble Sale - Primary School - 10-Noon

DECEMBER/JANUARY BIN COLLECTIONS

- Green Tuesday: 12th; 26th; / 2nd; 16th; 30th
- Blue/Brown Tuesday: 5th; 19th; / 9th; 23rd

Unwanted clothing and shoes may be recycled anytime at the Textiles/
Recycling Bank at Sibford School Swimming Pool. Bottle banks at Sibford
Ferris: Elm crossroads and Sibford Gower: Wykham Arms car park.

SIBFORD SCENE
DEADLINE FOR FEB ISSUE - 18 JANUARY 2018

Editor: Tony Skowronski, Jasmine Cottage, Burdrop, OX15 5RN
T: 01295 780490
E: sibfordscene@gmail.com

Ad Manager & Treasurer: Ivor Hopkyns, Elmridge Farmhouse,
Sibford Gower, OX15 5RT
T: 01295 788367
E: sallyandivorhopkyns@hotmail.com